Rise up and be A Man! And stop trying to be The Man!

The Lack of Male role models in African American communities and the problems come from it.

Tag Words: male role models; African Americans; black communities

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Summary:

Drugs, poverty, and violence are just three of the many issues that plague the African American communities within our nation, and young black men are usually the perpetrators and the victims. Although there are many ways to solve these problems, the one major solution is for black men to stand up and show the younger generation the right way to live. There is a lack of black fathers and good role models in our nation. Without the proper guidance young black boys look to the streets for advice on how to be a man, which will only lead to disastrous futures for the younger generations. Whether it is a doctor, lawyer, business man or cashier, these upstanding African American men need to become the role models for the young people that may already be on the streets and going down the wrong path, and get African American males to do the right thing no matter what profession they chose. (DW)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ef8k35j2is

Lyrics
July 24th 1989 i was bought in this world
I was born to a hard workin’ black boy and a middle class pretty young black girl
I ain’t really have much but my brother and my sister
Mother and my father speaking language uncensored
In the ghetto, black, and i was poor
Acted up and stole from all the mom and pops stores
Liked girls, and I tried to be a sports star
And I tried to be like the dude with the sports car
The last born, so I looked up to my big bro
Always wondered how he bought in all his cash flow
It was right around the time of my parents divorce
It kinda threw my whole family’s life off course
I was down every time my brother went to jail
I cried knowing my role model was in a cell

(Hook)
(Verse two)
Verse two it was thug life I knew a lot of friends that chose to join gangs
I saw many friends come, saw many friends go, I saw people sellin weed and cocaine
A rich white kid sells and he gets away, Poor black kid sells and he gets thrown away
who got it worse in America? I could show stories about what blacks gotta face everyday
I saw my friends tryin to hustle, I saw my fam struggle
Everybody got drunk or they was on a couple
My mother worked hard to make ends meet
And my sister was the best she was so sweet
She was like a second mom and looked after
She never said “Mase this is what you have to be”
I was a ball player and a track runner
Got a scholarship now I get to go to Rutgers

(Hook)
(verse three)
At school two majors but everyone thinks I’m supposed to be another dumb athlete
Playing on TV getting interviewed, you should hear the questions that they ask me
I got the power to be cocky, arrogant, and mean and not show any love to my team
But instead I say “Thank God” I’m so glad that he’s letting me live out my dream
They say kids should be a lawyer or a surgeon
But everyone out there is not the same person
So if a kid wants to go and be a Rock Star
That’s better than the back of a cop car
I’m and athlete, Yes, and that’s so big
Cuz i get to interact with the po’ kids
The Lack of Black Male Role Models

Introduction and History

(MR) Over the past several hundred years African Americans have been struggling to make it in America. Starting off as slaves, black people have spent many years of their lives fighting for freedom. There have been many races in America that have encountered conflicts and each group had to find a way to become accepted. As a black race, several issues (negative and positive) still emerge, today. African Americans have found hope, in the twentieth century, as they followed famous black musicians, athletes, activists, etc. As they continuously watched their families and friends being discriminated on, they began to build hatred towards other races, mainly Caucasian people. As they put their hope in to people like, Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., they felt better about being black and they began living for a purpose, which was to be able to interact with everyone, no matter which race they were a part of, lift the burden of the Jim Crow Laws, and anything else that held the black race back.

As time went by, in America, majority of the leaders of the African American race began to change for the worse. There were street gangs that emerged, the musicians began making music about negative issues, the athletes were becoming more ostentatious, etc. Black men began families and left the mother to raise the children on her own. With the children growing up in broken homes it was easier for them to turn to the streets for guidance, and eventually start their own families and follow the same pattern. They also turned to the people on television that looked like them. As the media exposed the flaws, of the famous blacks that kids try to emulate, in a brighter light it caused the black youth to follow similar footsteps. Because of the images that the media gave to the blacks, many young African Americans began to try and live up to that title, and they rebelled against different groups like whites, the police, and in some situations, each other. The rappers, gangsters, athletes, etc. that young black males look up to were making music mainly targeting the whites for their struggle, which eventually led to a turn in behavior of the black youth. The children were growing up and becoming gangsters and they were the ones killing each other for foolish reasons. Athletes were beginning to interact more with musicians and talk about how they disliked the police. Music groups like NWA began corrupting athletes, mainly athletes that played for the Oakland Raiders. With both groups going down that path it left young black males to follow the same footsteps.

Even with the negative things that black people had to see, follow, and go through; there were still positive people out there. There were many famous black people trying to give back to their communities. There were also young African American males that grew up in disadvantaged areas, but still kept on following the right path to achieve their dreams, which got them to where they are now or to where they are headed to. There are many African Americans that try to do things that would cause others to look up to them and show the other races the positive things that they can do. With black people being ambitious, prideful, open-minded, etc., at times, it is hard getting everyone to get on the same page, which eventually causes conflict because the youth do not know who to follow.
Negative Role models in black communities

“If they only see negative images of manhood to look up to they will think that is what manhood is.” -Reverend Al Sharpton

The lack of male role models within black communities is staggering. Young boys grow up in the streets of their cities, and instead of getting knowledge from a father they must learn “how to be a man” from a rap artist, an athlete, or a drug dealer. “If all they see are gangbangers, criminal behavior and irresponsible fathers they will think that is manhood for that is the example set before them” (Reverend Al Sharpton). Inner-city youths are surrounded by negative and false portrayals of what life and manhood is really about. Instead of looking up to a father, a young boy looks to the drug dealers on the corner for advice on how to be a man, and they would only be left with advice on how to be “the” man. The worst part about this is that it is a continuous circle of destruction. Young black boys get advice from guys on the corner or try and relate their lives to a rap artist. Then they grow up and begin to live the life that they were taught and they use that knowledge to teach the next generation of fatherless youths. "When you have the majority of people around you who don't care about their lives and their futures, then it's kind of hard to surpass them because they're always pulling you down" (Israel Dudley via The guardian. UK). The fact of the matter is that the negative influences within black communities are bringing a negative vibe amongst the people. It is hard for a young African American man to feel optimistic about the future, when all he sees is drug dealers and people that look like them getting shot. There needs to be more of an intuitive to start a cycle of rebuilding the black communities and bring them out of death and despair. In order to do that we must try and teach our young men the right way to go about life and not allow them to fall victim to the streets.

Family roles

The role of the family is a very important factor when it comes to dealing with the youth males. According to Making a Difference by Karen F. Parker and Scott R. Maggard, there are two different types of family structures within a black community, “street” and “decent” families. “Street families are families that typically have a lack of consideration for other people and a superficial sense of family and community. As frustrations mount over bills, food, and the like, parents find it difficult to cope with the physical and emotional demands of parenthood, resulting in children who lack curfews, supervision and resources, with some realizing that they must fend for themselves” (Parker & Maggard 2009, pg. 719). The physical and verbal disputes that are displayed within the streets are teaching young children to be more aggressive and begin to physically and verbally fight at a younger age.

“Decent families almost always have, “hope for the future” (Anderson, 1999, p. 37). This hope means that decent families place emphasis on saving money, working hard, and raising children in an effort to help them make something out of themselves. Because they identify with mainstream values, decent families are more likely to participate in jobs, schools, churches and other types of institutions. And while parenthood within disadvantaged areas is challenging, this context requires parents to be very strict with their children” (Parker & Maggard 2009 pg. 719). With decent family homes there are usually curfews and other restrictions for the children in order to make sure that they do not roam the streets at night, in the hope that it would prevent them from getting into trouble. Also decent family parents tend to give children money, when earned, in order to make sure that they have something in their pocket to keep them away from stealing, selling drugs, or anything else negative which is caused because of the lack of money. According to the article a “decent Daddy” is the key to a truly
successful decent family. A decent daddy needs to be a certain kind of man, “in that he serves as a role model and a potential source of jobs for urban youth” (Parker & Maggard 2009 pg. 5).

The characteristics of a decent daddy are one, who is an older African American male who has “steady employment, community responsibility, and responsibilities as a father and husband. This “decent” dad role is not only played in his own household but in the larger African American community as well” (Parker & Maggard 2009 pg. 719). A true leader in a predominantly black community is not one that only tries to help his children succeed but one who is willing to help his community as a whole succeed. The role of a family is important to life of every individual, but within black communities a proper family structure is more valuable than anything. For young black males to live in a household with two parents that care enough to be strict, within an urban area, they are already a step ahead of the curve. Proper family structure can help influence informal social structure which will eventually help shield urban youth from sub cultural values that promote violence and illicit behavior.

**Prison**

(MR) Prison is becoming, if it has not already, a part of the black culture. Today in time, according to a law Professor named Michelle Alexander, “more African American men are in prison or jail, on probation or parole than were enslaved in 1850, before the Civil War began.” With the number of black men in prisons on the rise there are less black men on the outside to help lead the younger black males. Young black males were forced to learn how to be a man on their own and fend for themselves. Many of them wound up making the same mistakes as their elders. To the credit of the black males, the number of crimes for black males is going down immensely; however, black males are still using and trying to deal drugs to bring in a higher profit than they are already receiving. Often times what they plan on doing with that money is take care of their families then themselves. However, they usually use the money to take care of themselves first, with new cars, homes, partying, etc. Then after they are taken care of, then they focus on taking care of their families, the only problem is they are usually never taken care of enough, they find themselves becoming greedy and wanting it all. When they get caught, everything is taken away; therefore when they come home they are back to square one. Without making much money while incarcerated they come home to nothing, so instead of going to find a job and staying with the job, many young black males turn back to the streets. They turn back either immediately or they try working at a nine to five, minimum wage paying job and eventually they come to the realization that they are not making as much money as they could if they returned to their old life. Every time they go to jail, the fact of the matter is, is they would have had a better chance of making the same amount of money, if not more, at a regular job where they punched the clock than they made while selling drugs.

America does not mind continuously sending black males to prison because with more people on the outside of the system there would be fewer jobs. There are many things that America does on purpose and keeps from the rest of the people. For instance, the unemployment rate in America would be higher if inmates were factored in to the number of unemployed Americans.

Even though black males are the minorities of America, they still make up the preponderance of the prison system, and the number is still rising. According to one in 100: Adults behind bars 2008, the chances of a black person, no matter male or female, going to jail is greater than any other race. Starting at black males that are 18 and older, one in 15 are in prison, and black males that are between twenty and thirty-four the number moves to one in nine. One in
every 99.1 American adults is behind bars, and African American males make up the majority. The youth is repeating the path of the people that came before them and the numbers show that they are not learning from previous mistakes or the mistakes from their elders because as they get older the number of black males in prisons or jails goes up.

**Single Parents**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, African Americans are the leading race for having children in single-parent households. Asian children have the benefit of having the lowest number of single-parent households. With mothers being the ones to take custody of the children, without having to put up much of a fight, many males lose the much needed positive male role model in the households. Since fathers have to put up more of a fight to gain custody of the children, and with most men not attempting to go the extra mile, often times mothers remain with custody without much of a fight from the father of the child. With mothers raising the children, the children are left without a positive male role model in the household. It is common for those young males to turn to the streets for the role models that they think are positive because of the pricey cars, clothes and accessories. They began to look to the drug dealers, rappers, and athletes for guidance on how they have to be and how they should carry themselves. For boys, it is definitely hard for them to grow as a positive man in the community, and they are more susceptible to repeat the cycle of having kids and not being there to take care of them. A female cannot teach a boy how to be a man which causes a problem since most males are being raised by single mothers. With majority of the single-parent households being African American families, this shows a correlation with the males of the African American race that are bound to continuously repeat these patterns. Taking this information into the context of family roles discussed earlier, most single-parent homes are categorized as street family households. In these cases, it is easier for the mother to become overwhelmed with all of the responsibilities they have of taking care of their children by themselves. The mothers also struggle because they are working diligently to provide a better life for their child/children, and with the lack of funds to afford a babysitter, they have to leave their child/children to fend for him/herself while they are away at work. The necessity of a positive male role model within a family structure is much needed.

Asians have the lowest rate of single-parent households mainly because they believe in being the “model citizen” and showing their children that hard work pays off. They migrate to the United States and try to make a living for their families and they believe they have to live up to their culture and not do anything negative in the community that would affect their ancestors in a negative way. With black people having different standards, it’s not a major concern to the race when a black person does something unethical to add to the negative stereotypes of the race. With people from different races and from the same race looking down on the black youth, many young African American males stop caring and they begin to believe the negative connotations of the race and try to live up to what people say about them.

According to the statistics that Dads4kids.com found, kids in single parent homes was considered to struggle more and fall short more frequently in important categories, than children that live with both parents. Children in single-parent homes are more likely to abuse drugs, alcohol, and they have a higher chance of being sexually abused. The parent is more likely to abuse their child. Children in a single-family household are at a higher risk for negative outcomes. The education level for the children in single-parent households remain below the academic level of the children that live in a household with both parents.
Education Level

With African Americans being a minority in America, there are more scholarships set up to help them get into universities. According to the Civil Report, African American males are graduating at a lower rate than African American females, by a difference of 11% which is considered to be high compared to the differences of the genders in the other races. The state with the highest graduation rate amongst all students was New Jersey with 88% and the state with the lowest graduation rate was South Carolina with 54%. Every day, students are dropping out of high school with black males leading the way, even though they are the minority.

Many things tie in to a black male being uneducated. Some of those ways is what they are surrounded by. Often times in disadvantaged areas with low income, many of the parents have not been to college. Some may be drop outs from high school or college and others may not have had the resources to further their education level. With many African Americans, being in a single-parent household increases the chances of their child dropping out of school. When children drop out they often do so because there is no one there to keep them in line or they feel that they can better themselves at a faster pace by doing something different. Often times that something different is turning to the streets. They see local drug dealers or their friends making money very quickly and they wind up wanting to do the same. As they listen to their favorite musicians talk about being in the streets, sleeping with women, and all the glamour to that lifestyle they begin wanting to live that type of life, and with majority of the hip hop musicians not going to college it makes their followers feel less of a priority to go to college. It gives them an excuse to why they do not have to go to college to make it in life. In the black community, it is common for a black male to have to get a job to raise money, or go to the street to make money to help their single-parent with different financial needs. This causes them to put school on the back burner.

Many African American males are at more of a disadvantage compared to their counterparts, when it comes to education. With the lack of funds, single-parent households, and lack of education many black males fail to move forward in society. It is easier for some black males to be drawn to sports because an athletic scholarship to a college is sometimes the only way they can get in to a university and away from their negative surroundings. Parents frequently wish and try to get their child to get a scholarship to attend school, whether it is academic or athletic. In the black community it is more likely that it will happen with sports rather than academics.

Helping young black males

With the lack of guidance in America, many young African American males have been turned to different programs that can help them through their struggle. Some of these programs can help any race or gender; however; the black males are usually the ones in need of these programs, the most. Some of the programs are also set up to mainly focus on African Americans. There are many churches that are trying to help the cause. There are also charter schools, big brother programs and a few more. African American males are starting to be recruited at a young age and bought to these different places for help, even if they don’t think they need help. These places try to take the role as a father figure, a teacher, a mentor, etc. Black males are finishing these programs much better people than when they started.

To every negative story there is often times a positive story. With black males making up majority of the unemployment rate, the prison systems, the dropout rate, etc. there are also black
males that are taken at a young age for guidance on how to escape the negative lifestyles. In Chicago, at a charter school called Urban Prep the young black male children are being taken out of their negative environments and placed in Urban Prep, with other young black males, to get a different outlook on life. There are also churches that are forming a team to watch after the young black males, so they will not follow the same negative paths of the previous black males that came before them. They are there to help the African American males stay on the right side of the law. There are big brother programs across the nation that are there to help young children that do not have both parents at home. With African Americans being the leading group of broken homes, then it is apparent that young black males are one of the main focus groups.

With these programs many of the young African American males were able to be helped and led down the right path. There were also a few that did not do as well as expected, and failed to reach expectations. Though the number was low, the goal is to get everyone to make a change for the better and help them live a positive life. People are striving to get families to not only help other families in need during the holidays, but they also want them to try and stay open to them on an everyday basis. The kids need the guidance every day. There are many opportunities for people to be positive in a child’s life. There are people like coaches, tutors, teachers, etc. that can make a huge impact on a young child’s life. Especially in a dominantly African American neighborhood, positive male role models are important for their success level. Not many African American males choose people as role models that do not make music, play a sport, and/or someone that make money in the streets (i.e. drug dealers, gang members, etc.)

**Programs Currently in Place**

There are currently a number of organizations in place to help inner-city youths grow up in the right way. These organizations are used to help these kids off the streets and give them opportunities to succeed in life through education and athletics. One corporation that helps inner-city youths is The Youth Education and Employment Success Program or Y2ES for short. This center which is based in Newark NJ is an organization that tries to give young adults the tools to succeed in life through education and athletics. One corporation that helps inner-city youths is The Youth Education and Employment Success Program or Y2ES for short. This center which is based in Newark NJ is an organization that tries to give young adults the tools to succeed in life. Giving them programs to allow them to be upstanding citizens of Newark and help rebuild their city for future generations to build upon.

On a national level there are many different organizations that are focused on inner-city youths such as the Boys and Girls Club of America, but the biggest organization is AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps is an organization that aid smaller organizations whose aim is to help people in any way. The reason why AmeriCorps is so important is because it gives people who might not have a lot to give a chance to help their community. Here are a list of some other programs around the country that are used to help urban youths

  
  *Urban Leadership Institute (ULI) is a social enterprise based in Baltimore, Maryland. They specialize in empowering youths and giving them the information to one day create their own enterprise.*

  
  *Urban Youth Impact serves the Tamarind Avenue corridor and surrounding area in West Palm Beach. UYI seeks to reverse troubling trends and fulfill its mission by offering programs designed to develop critical life-skills that result in less juvenile crime, fewer teen pregnancies, less substance abuse, less child abuse/domestic violence, and fewer school drop-outs.*
- **Youth Opportunities Program:** [http://www.outdoors.org/recreation/yop/index.cfm](http://www.outdoors.org/recreation/yop/index.cfm)

  *Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) is to make the outdoors accessible and meaningful to urban and at-risk youth. This program is located in upstate NY.*

- **Urban Youth Initiative:**

  *This program is a national program that focuses building places to play, places to grow and places to learn for at-risk youths.*

- **YE2S:** [http://youthsuccesscenter.org/](http://youthsuccesscenter.org/)

  *The Youth Education and Employment Success (Ye2s) Center seeks to improve measurably the quality of life of New Jersey youth by expanding their educational, vocational, and employment opportunities.*

- **Urban Youth Collaborative:** [http://www.urbanyouthcollaborative.org/](http://www.urbanyouthcollaborative.org/)

  *The Urban Youth Collaborative brings New York City youth together to fight for change through local and citywide organizing strategies.*

- **Big Brothers Big Sisters:** [http://www.bbbs.org/site/c.9iILI3NGKhK6F/b.5962335/k.BE16/Home.htm](http://www.bbbs.org/site/c.9iILI3NGKhK6F/b.5962335/k.BE16/Home.htm)

  *Big Brothers Big Sisters is a national program that focuses on giving mentors to at-risk kids in urban communities. Allowing for urban youths to have positive role models to look up too.*

- **YMCA Education and Leadership Programs:**

  *These programs serve the community nationally. They are formed to teach leadership and responsibility to youths across America.*

- **CeaseFire Program:** [http://ceasefirechicago.org/](http://ceasefirechicago.org/)

  *CeaseFire is a program based in the inner-city of Chicago that tries to end street violence through the education of youths.*

- **Urban Arts:** [http://www.urbanartoutreach.com/](http://www.urbanartoutreach.com/)

  *This is a Detroit based program that uses creative arts to keep youths off of the street and help give them an outlet of frustration and possibly a way out of their situations.*

- **Boys and Girls club of America:** [http://www.bgca.org/](http://www.bgca.org/)

  *The Boys & Girls club of America is a national program that aids youth through productive programs that keep young kids off of the streets after school and on weekends.*

Overall these organizations are a step forward in helping inner-city youths realize that they cannot expect to live a fulfilling life on the streets. These organizations are not just made to help the young men of today, but imbed this idea so that it can be taught for generations to come, and hopefully in the future there will be no need for organizations like this anymore. If you are not satisfied with the list here all you have to do is type in Urban Youth programs and the name of your community and you will be able to find ones that suite you.
Positive Male Role Models

(DW) With all that has been said about the lack of role models within the black community one can ask the question, are there any black male role models within the country? The answer is yes. One does not have to look further than the president of our country to find that there are truly positive role models that young black men can look up to. The reason being is that there is a lack of media representation of these positive black role models. In the world that we live in today the media has a strong influence on how we live our lives by what they allow us to consume. To that extent there is a constant flow of black men and women committing ignorant acts. Programs like the Chappell show and websites like World Star Hip Hop that shows nothing to help uplift the African American culture. It is rare to hear stories or see videos of black men or women who do things to help uplift the black communities or help people in general. The media often times portrays rappers, singers, or athletes as the only successful black people in the world. There is hardly ever anything said though about the black doctors, scientists, teachers, and other professions that black people are successful in. The problem is that success within the black community is measured by money and fame. To a young black boy from the “hood” to grow up and get paid millions of dollars, drive the fanciest cars, and have all the women he wants is a dream and also the ultimate level of success. The media has made it so black boys reach for the dollar sign and keep trying to get it by any means possible. The problem is that if the only thing that makes people feel successful is by chasing after the next dollar, then a person will never be truly happy.

Service to the community

(MR) I decided to record a rap song explaining my life and what I went through. I think it can go in line with what a lot of young black males are going through. My walk in life was not the worse; however it was not the best. This story is not supposed to scare anyone; however, it is supposed to enlighten the listeners on what the black youth are facing, and I feel like there are many worse stories than mine, about people that live in my own town, of Somerville, New Jersey. In my song I show how I do live up to the stereotype of a young black male that wants to be an athlete and a rapper. I did not do either because it would help me make it out of my situation, I did it because I strongly enjoy doing both activities. That is part of the reason why I chose to double major so I can expand on my life skills.

My plan on getting this song out to the media and everyone around my area by putting the song on to a CD and handing them out to people. I would start with immediate family first and then give a copy to my cousin. He is the founder of the Royalty Family music label and he works with many famous people that are popular in the music industry. With him knowing so many people, it will be easier to network and ask him to show people to song to help spark a little change in the media towards black males in America. This will take some time considering he is a very busy person, but I’m willing to keep take however long I have to. I also have an uncle that used to play professional basketball and now owns a club, and he can possibly take copies of the song and show different club owners, former teammates and people that he comes across.

With the other songs that I have made in the past I can put together a CD, and hand them out myself with the song for the project “A Star” being the main song. There are different ways I can get people to listen closer to this song. I can put an asterisk next to the title of the song on
the cover of the CD, I can tell people to listen closely to the song as I hand it to them, and other ways. There are different venues where I can play the song. The most effective way is to go to a newsroom like Channel 12 news or something and tell them to show clips of the video. I can also go to local radio stations around the tri-state and ask them to play the song.

There are many options on how to promote/advertise this song to the media. Once the public wants to hear it more and more the media has no choice, but to play the song. Therefore, I will get my family members and close friends to keep contacting a radio station and request the song. If my first few ways are not effective I will try to find another approach, for instance, possible by putting it up on Facebook, Twitter, or other popular sites.

References


Letter that were sent to The Chicago Eagle, a historically black newspaper

Dear Editor

There is a problem within our inner cities that needs to be addressed. The lack of positive male influences within our black communities is what is harming black culture in America. Young boys go though out their life learning manhood lessons from either the drug dealer on the corner or from the rappers on television. Their needs to be more of a responsibility imbedded within black men that they have a responsibility to their community to teach young boys the right way to go about life and how to handle their circumstances the right way. One way in which to begin is for media sources to stop only showing black men in a negative light. When young children
see only negative examples they will think that those images are all that there is. To put more positive black male role models within the media will help the transformation of young black men completely.

Sincerely,

Devon Watkis

Letter that was sent as a letter to the editor to a local newspaper

Dear Editor,

I’m writing to you to enlighten you on ways that black males can achieve higher levels. I think someone of your status, with the ability to put stories in the paper, will be able to open the minds of your readers/followers. Instead of only showing black males in sports in your newspaper also show them doing other important jobs like being a doctor, or a lawyer, etc. I want the young black children, teenaged black males, and adult black males to see that they have more options than they realize. I think other ways to help black males pull their weight in the economy is to start them off in programs as they are young and give them older black males to mentor them. A mentor can help a young black male tremendously. Also, let the place have after school programs and summer programs so they can stay busy and keep from getting into trouble. I hope you will consider having at least a few days where you guys enlighten your followers about the positive black male role models in the world, other than athletes or musicians. Also, when times go wrong for a black man can you not put them as the main story and show the negative. There are many black males in the world that are doing positive things; however, they do not get any notoriety. I hope you will consider this plan and see how it works for the black males in the area that the paper reaches too.

Thank You,

Mason Robinson